

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO RICHARD JOHNSTON IDD/EES

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ATLANTA GEORGIA 30332

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3159

UNCLAS TOKYO 12629

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, GW

SUBJECT: GRANULAR GAS ABSORPTION ACTIVATED CARBON

REF: A) TOKYO 11852; B) STATE 13384

1. AVERAGE COST FIGURES CITED REF A WERE ERRONEOUSLY GIVEN IN METRIC TONS. PRICES WERE ACTUALLY PER KILOGRAM TO INDUSTRIAL END-USERS.

2. ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY SOURCES, MARKET FOR GRANULAR GAS ABSORPTION ACTIVATED CARBON PEAKED LAST YEAR AT HEIGHT OF ANTI-POLLUTION EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT BOOM. PRODUCTION OF ACTIVATED CARBON FOR ALL PURPOSES, BOTH GRANULAR AND POWDERED, IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE REACHED 30,000 TO 35,000 METRIC TONS DURING CALENDAR 1974. UNDER CURRENT RECESSIONARY CONDITIONS, HOWEVER, ACTIVATED CARBON IS ACTUALLY IN OVERSUPPLY. ONE FIRM, DAIICHI CARBON INDUSTRIES, REPORTEDLY EVEN INTENDS TO EXPORT ITS EXCESS INVENTORY TO THE U.S. OVER THE LONGER TERM DEMAND IS EXPECTED TO PICK UP MODERATELY BUT NOT TO REACH LAST YEAR'S LEVELS.

3. ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY STATISTICS, JAPAN IMPORTED THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS OF GRANULAR AND POWDERED ACTIVATED CARBON DURING JAPAN FISCAL YEAR 1973 (APRIL 1973 - MARCH 1973 - MARCH 1974); 819 METRIC TONS FROM THE PHILIPPINES; AND 694 UNCLASSIFIED

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METRIC TONS FROM MALAYSIA. IN ADDITION, 1,211 METRIC TONS WERE IMPORTED FROM THE U.S. DIRECTLY BY JAPANESE END-USERS IN THE SUGAR REFINING AND WATER TREATMENT INDUSTRIES, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THEIR LICENSING

AGREEMENTS WITH U.S. FIRMS. IN JFY 1974 INDUSTRY
SOURCES ESTIMATE THE FIGURES TO BE 1,400 METRIC TONS
EACH FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND MALAYSIA, AND 2,200 METRIC
TONS FROM THE U.S.
HODGSON

UNCLASSIFIED

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